

From the President's Pen...

September 11, 2006

On the day that I write this article, the news media has informed me that, on this day in history, there have been more recorded hurricanes than on any other day of the year! And as if not to let history be proven wrong, the newest hurricane is swirling around just south of Bermuda, trying to decide which direction it should go to spread its' fury. Coincidentally, it is also the 5-year anniversary of an attack on our country that claimed the lives of over 3,000 of our fellow citizens. As I considered these facts, it came to mind that we whom are involved in the enforcement of floodplain and stormwater management programs should be ever vigilant in our quest to protect our communities from the devastating effects of flood waters.

It lies on our shoulders to enforce rules and regulations that most people would like to forget...at least until the water starts rising! When the sun is shining, it is hard to get some folks to appreciate that it may rain again. I've been told a guy by the name of Noah had a similar challenge!

One of our challenges is to stay abreast of changes in the regulations and then educate those involved as to what these new changes are and how they might affect development within our communities. To

that end, the MfSMA Executive Board is currently putting the finishing details on some training sessions on the new elevation certificate and associated floodplain management topics. These sessions will be held in the spring of 2007 at five locations around the state. In addition, planning is under way for the 2007 annual meeting to be held May 9-11, 2007 at the Resort at Port Arrowhead at the Lake of the Ozarks. If you have specific topics that you would like to see presented, don't hesitate to contact your Area Director, or any of the Board, with your suggestions. The MfSMA web site (www.mfsma.com) is a great way to find information on what's coming up in your area. This is your organization, and it is the Board's sincere desire to make sure you are provided with the information and contacts you need to fulfill your duties as the floodplain and stormwater managers for the State of Missouri.

May this find you high and dry!

-Nick Heatherly



Volume 2, issue 17

Fall 2006

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Just for Fun...

What's the difference between mechanical engineers and civil engineers?

Mechanical engineers build weapons...Civil engineers build targets.

Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it...

Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

IMPs

By Ruth Wallace



**Integrated Management Practices (IMPs) –
strategies, technologies and practices for the best in local storm water management.**

IMPULSE note #1 – New Tool

A new tool has just been released out of Ohio—second edition of the *Stormwater Management Standards Manual* September, 2006. Check it out at http://www.tmacog.org/Environment/SW_Stand_Man_8_24_06.pdf. This manual covers the runoff gambit: environmental impacts, program management, performance criteria, better site designs, construction and post-construction practices, floodplain and floodways regulations, wetlands protection, inspections, and enforcement.

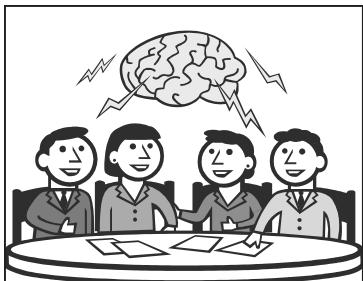
IMPULSE note #2 – Urban Stream Buffers

Urban stream buffers are oftentimes one of the community's first defenses in protecting aquatic resources from post-construction runoff. Many design discussions entail questions such as, "Should the buffer include a fixed setback or a variable setback," "What type of vegetation should be used," and "What type of activities should be allowed or excluded?" Some factors to consider include stream type, function and location (climate, drinking water, slope, etc), stream order (first, second, etc.), stream value, anticipated impacts, community buy-in and long-term maintenance options, to name a few. Tom Schueler from the Center for Watershed Protection offers this perspective: "If you have a stream buffer system that includes the 100-year floodplain, then you don't have to bother with peak discharge control. It takes about three percent of the watershed area to put in large detention structures, which is about equal to the amount of floodplain area."

Information on urban stream buffers is still somewhat limited as long-term studies are difficult to find, but pro-arguments are progressively compelling. Experts such as Schueler tout that optimal benefits are the result of a more engineered three-zone buffer system with built-in flexibility, while some communities feel that a fixed buffer or a simple setback may be more practical to meet their needs. Nonetheless, most technical references, even EPA's, point back to Schueler's esteemed Article 39-Architecture of an Urban Stream Buffer www.cwp.org.

Given the interest in complying with latest storm water regulations, Missouri communities are turning to stream buffers for starters. Independence and St. Charles County, to name a couple, have already adopted ordinances. Numerous other communities are mid-stream in discussion - in Missouri and all across the nation. (To view model stream buffer ordinances, visit www.stormwatercenter.net.)

We're already planning for next summer....



**Mark your calendars for May 9th —11th, 2007
for the
2007 Annual Floodplain and
Stormwater Manager's Conference**

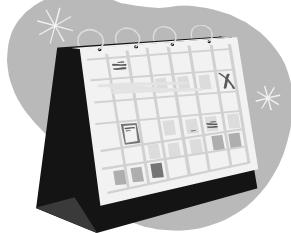
Resort at Port Arrowhead, Lake Ozark, MO

TOOLS OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP DATES

March 13-14 July 10-11 September 11-12

These workshops will be held at the State Emergency Management Agency, 2302 Militia Dr., Jefferson City, MO.

Registration on the first day will begin at 12:30 p.m. The actual workshop will begin at 1:30 p.m. and conclude by 4:30 p.m. The second day of the workshop will begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m. There is no charge for these workshops, but space is limited. Please call Pamela Huhmann at 573-526-9115 to reserve your space.



New Elevation Certificate Workshops in the Planning Stages

MfSMA is working with the NFIP and SEMA to offer a somewhat modified series of mini-workshops in the spring of 2007. These workshops will be a variation on the traditional mini-workshops with $\frac{1}{2}$ of the day being devoted to Floodplain Management instruction and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the day being devoted entirely to the new Elevation Certificates. Watch for details in future MfSMA newsletters or in your mail.

If you have not yet begun using the new Elevation Certificates, please download a copy from www.fema.gov.



The View from Albuquerque

By: Errin Kemper, CFM

In June 2006, I had the pleasure of attending the 30th annual ASPPM conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The entire trip was made possible by a generous scholarship from SEMA that covered the conference registration as well as a great deal of the travel expenses.

I arrived in Albuquerque on Sunday June 10 and spent the afternoon exploring the downtown area and enjoying the weather. The thermometer read well over 100° during the day, but when you are accustomed to the humidity in Missouri, the dry desert air feels more like 75. The conference was located in the downtown area along historic Route 66 among a variety of different shops and restaurants.

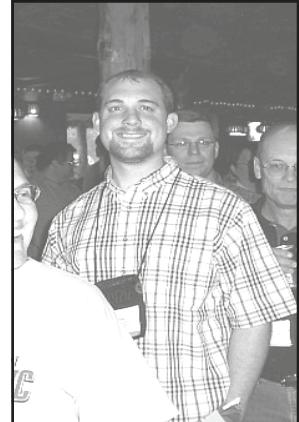
The conference began Monday morning with a half-day workshop on Floodproofing Techniques and Methodologies. This was a very interesting workshop that covered everything from Dry & Wet Floodproofing to Acquisition and Relocation of flood-prone homes and businesses. After the morning series of workshops, conference attendees spent the afternoon and evening attending various meetings, bidding on items in the silent charity auction, or exploring the city. A group of us even attended a minor league baseball game!

The rest of the week, each day began with a series of plenary sessions. These sessions gave attendees a chance to learn about and discuss the many issues associated with hurricane Katrina. This was a great opportunity for people from around the country to share ideas and learn from the devastating effects of the hurricane. After the morning plenary sessions, conference goers had a chance to attend a number of concurrent sessions. These sessions usually consisted of three different speakers from three different areas of the country that gave a brief presentation on a common topic. Topics for these sessions included technical information about floodplain mapping, mitigation of flood-prone structures, community planning, and everything in between. With the variety of topics available, there were plenty of interesting things to learn about.



Thursday evening, the conference concluded with the "Los Amigos Fiesta". This BarBQ included Hispanic and Native American stage shows, singing, dancing, and a chance to meet new people and spend time with old friends.

Perhaps the best thing about going to a national conference is that you get a chance to learn about such a variety of flood related topics. Whether you specialize in floodplain management, mitigation, or floodplain mapping, you are exposed to an unlimited number of sources for information. Another great thing about the national conference is the people you meet. There is no other place where you have a chance to meet so many people with a common interest. It gives you the chance to learn how other people in other parts of the world handle the same situations that you deal with every day.



Hope to see you at next year's conference!

Congratulations to Missouri's newest CFMs!

CFM® Corner

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) grants certification to those professionals who have met the requirements and completed a comprehensive examination of programs and standards to reduce flood losses in the nation.

Robert Atchley, CFM, Christian County

John Boggs, CFM, City of Eureka

Van Duong, CFM, St. Charles County

Alan Fandrey, CFM, Barr Engineering

Brian Hess, CFM, City of Liberty

Daniel King, CFM, City of Sullivan

Dave Myers, CFM, City of Pacific

Jason Schneider, CFM State Emergency Management Agency



If you are interested in becoming a Certified Floodplain Manager, review and test dates are held several times throughout the year in Missouri. Please contact Pam Huhmann (SEMA) at 573-526-9115 or check the ASFPM website (www.floods.org) for more information.

MfSMA

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The **MfSMA** newsletter is published on a quarterly basis and serves as an informational forum for professional Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers to share their knowledge and experiences with others throughout the state.

For information about subscriptions, you may write MfSMA, c/o Editor Ronda Gulley, 940 N. Boonville, Room 305, Springfield, MO 65802 or call Janet Sanders, Past President of MfSMA, at (573) 243-2300.